

THE SENTINEL

WASHINGTON, D. C., MAR. 19, 1898.

Some German Papers are giving us a lesson as to the meaning of German unity in this country.

Senator Proctor's Speech

may not please all the money men, but it will satisfy the people of this country that they can no longer afford to look at the terrible state of misery and the murder by starvation right at our very doors, without trying to stop it.

If we know that a man next door is being murdered, and we do not try to prevent it, we become participants in the crime and in part responsible for his death.

And what of the "Christians"? They are the rich, and, therefore, are mostly all on the side of Spain.

Effects of the Raines Law.

The New York Voice, the prohibition paper, has the following. It is opposed to the Raines Law, and the latter remains, therefore, an exclusively Republican measure, as even the prohibitionists do not want to have anything to do with it:

In the face of the claim, formally made by the friends of the Raines law, that that law has decreased crime in New York State, the following figures are interesting. During the six years immediately preceding the enactment of the Raines law the average number of convictions for crime in New York State was 70,037; for 1897, the first full year under the Raines law, the number was 70,925, or 888 more than the average. For the same six years the average number of convictions in courts of record (excluding the graver crimes) was 3,477. In 1897, in which year the Raines law was in operation seven months, the number was 3,958, or an increase of 481, and in 1897 under the law's full operation these convictions numbered 4,573, or 1,096 more than the average of the six years preceding.

Ungrateful.

Some Iowa papers, which lately worked for the gold, or rather Republican, prohibition party, have been attacking Governor Boies.

The New York Voice, the national prohibition organ, corrects them. It says:

The opinions expressed are not worthy of any extended notice. They are largely the same old falsehoods about the failure of prohibition with which the public is already familiar and the falsity of which every fair minded student of facts knows. But, as published, these statements are prefaced by the assertion that ex-Governor Boies has been a leading prohibitionist of Iowa and was twice elected Governor by the prohibitionists. Such a statement is totally false. Prohibition in Iowa never had a worse or meaner enemy than Horace Boies. His detection from the Republican party was largely because of the leaning of the rank and file of that party in Iowa toward prohibition, and it was Horace Boies who, when Democratic Governor, error of the commonwealth of Iowa, sworn to enforce its laws, adopted the anarchistic policy of pardoning every criminal convicted of a violation of the prohibitory law.

Assistant Secretary Day

has said precisely the right thing at precisely the right time. The Spanish Minister having asked him why our Government is buying ships and making other preparations for war, he has replied in substance that we are only averting war by getting ready for it; that our preparations for possible conflict have been suggested solely by Spain's preparations to precipitate such a conflict. We do not want war. We shall do every reasonable thing possible to avert war. But if war is to come we do not intend to be unprepared for it. This is exactly our national position. We shall not provoke war; but if war is forced upon us we shall be ready for it and not be taken unawares.

"The Equivalent of Independence."

General Grosvenor says that under the Wall Street plan of peace by purchase Cuba will get "the equivalent of independence."

But what is the "equivalent of independence" to a people who have been oppressed and persecuted? A people who have seen their women and old men and helpless young children deliberately starved to death by Spanish orders? What would George Washington, Nathaniel Green, Mad Anthony Wayne, Ethan Allen and Sumpter and Marion have regarded as "the equivalent of independence" if anybody had tried to dicker with them for surrender.

The Cubans can make no bargains with Spain. They have learned by bitter experience that Spain does not and will not and cannot keep faith. They laid down their arms and ended the ten years' war upon Spain's solemn pledge of the "equivalent of independence." They found that they had been dealing with an enemy as faithless as it had been cruel.

They promised home rule and representation in the Cortes at Madrid. The home rule proved to be the arbitrary rule of Spanish merchants and their clerks, under merciless military tyrants. The representation in the Cortes was hedged about with limitations upon eligibility and suffrage that no Cuban could be elected, and almost no Cuban could vote even to choose between the antagonistic

Spaniards who aspired to represent him.

The Wall Street plan may find favor in certain precincts at Washington. It can find none in Cuba. There is for Cuba no possible "equivalent of independence," and with the vultures picking the bones of the Maine's sailors there ought to be none within the purview of American minds.

An Echo of the Virginius Atrocity.

The word Virginius suggests one of the greatest national outrages ever allowed to go unavenged. It also suggests a sequel of dishonor which had two parts, both of which have especial interest at the present time.

The Virginius outrage was bad enough in itself, but was allowed to darken the pages of American diplomatic history with an exhibition of supineness rarely equaled. For the most part our State Department, from the Secretaryship of Thomas Jefferson down, has had at the head of it statesmen combining dauntless courage with admirable tact. But the Virginius affair was a national disgrace, and in the light of current events, a striking instance of a blunder worse than a crime.

It was the last day of October, 1873, that two rebel privateers, built in the same British shipyard, met in the Caribbean Sea. One, the Virginius, flew the flag of the United States, the other, the Tornado, sailed under the flag of Spain. The Tornado attacked the Virginius and captured her. The examination showed that the registry of the Virginius was under the United States; in other words, that she had a right to unfurl at her masthead the Stars and Stripes. Release and apology should have followed. Instead of that the Tornado took her prize into the nearest Spanish harbor, Santiago de Cuba, the next day, under charge of privateering in the interest of the Cuban rebels. A mock court was convened, the American consul at the port being imprisoned in the consulate, and the condemnation and execution of captain passengers and crew began. The work of death was in sections. The first batch consisted of four passengers. They were shot Nov. 4. Three days later twelve more passengers were murdered in the same way. The next day Captain Fry, an American citizen, and thirty-six of the crew were executed, making fifty-three in all, many of them, besides the commander, being citizens of the United States. Not a man would have escaped, but at that time a British man of war came along and put a stop to the murderous proceedings.

The horror itself furnished an opportunity to free Cuba in vindication of our national honor. That opportunity was frittered away. From that time this Spain has felt contempt for the United States, believing that its flag can be insulted and its citizens killed, and only a small diplomatic courtesy to be given as a reparation. The lesson of the hour from the sequel, or sequels, to the Virginius horror is plain. Nor do we believe that President McKinley will fail to heed the warning. There would have been no Cuban question to deal with at this day, no Maine horror, nor any "concentrations" if the Virginius horror had been treated as became the honor of the United States and the demands of common sense and courage.

At three important crises in its history this nation has stood for peace with—A. But. On July 4, 1776, the "representatives of the United States of America, in General Congress assembled," adopted the immortal Declaration that they were for peace—but "the United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States." And in support of this they solemnly pledged their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor. After seven years' war they secured peace with honor and independence. In 1812 the United States notified Great Britain that this country preferred peace—but the freedom of our ships must be respected. After a two years' fight, marked by glorious victories on sea and lake, American ships were forever free from search and American seamen secure from seizure. In 1861 Lincoln told the seceding Southern States that he loved peace—but the Union must be preserved. The most terrible war of the century was fought to make good that one condition of peace and honor and safety.

And so now, when our Government, representing and responding to the will of the people, shall say to Spain: Let us have peace—but Cuba must be free!—it will act in the straight line of historic precedent and in strict discharge of its duty to our flag and to freedom and humanity.

THEATRICAL.

Farce comedy writers have hit upon many novel subjects for their caricatures, but it remained for the author of "The Star Gazer" to go above all others, and take no less inspiring theme than the heavens for his satire. It deals with the hobby of the man with the telescope, and the love smitten maiden—both star gazers—one searching the heavens in the interest of science, the other earnestly searching for a response to the tender sentiments within her soul. The plot is very simple, the dialogue is said to be witty, the situations funny, and advantage is taken of the abundant opportunities in each act for the introduction of specialties. The particular star is Mr. Joe Ott, who is unknown to local theatre goers, as he has appeared in stellar roles in some of the comedy successes. In his support are Miriam Martell, Phil Ott, Leona Cardona, Rosa Hale, Gladys Clare, Tim Cronin, W. R. Harris and Beatrice Bonner. "The Star Gazer" will be seen for the first time in this city at the Academy of Music Monday evening next.

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willer, a few York minstrel man, a runaway son of Cindy and Jacob Tutewiler, as from the dead he comes to denounce Sue and restore peace.

As the action progresses, the village band, a male and female chorus of country folks, and a calf (to be served up at a barbecue), are effectively introduced. The marriage of Col. Risener to the widow Samantha Hankins, one of June's old friends, is a humorous episode, heightened by the antics of the widow's son, Isaac, at the dinner table scene in Bascom's house, when told to "act just like the gentlemanly Perry," imitates his every movement even to kissing June. Much amusement is also afforded in the final scene by old Tutewiler's discovery that his daughter Nell is a leading lady in a New York theatre instead of New York society's leading lady, and that his son has become a negro minstrel in the city of New York instead of a minister of the gospel as he fondly supposed.

Last of Local Option in Ohio.

COUNTY LOCAL OPTION has just been declared a failure in Harrison County, one of the only two Ohio counties which has experimented with this undesirable feature of government. The Anti-Saloon League succeeded in having the people in every town and township vote the saloons out and with their exit came the blind pigs, barroom druggists, speak-easies and boot-leggers which always follow in the wake of the League, and the local tax rate bobbed up to \$2.68 from \$2.40 in Cadiz, the county seat, as a result of the loss of Dow Tax. Now that the people have had a full and fair demonstration of what Local Option means, they are thoroughly disgusted, and at the primaries held at Cadiz last week, the candidates of the Anti-Saloon League were beaten, which means that the reign of hypocrisy and false pretensions is at an end.

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WEEK OF MAR. 21,

The Hilarious Festival.

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Seats now on sale.

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The Rollicking Farical Comedy,

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Special engagement of the great

MAGGIE CLINE.

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JOE OTT

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Seats now selling.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.

KERNAN & RIFE, MANAGERS.

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THE OLD VILLAGE BAND.

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THE FAMOUS SAW MILL SCENE.

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